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COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods
(Fourteenth session,
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agenda item 4 (b))

GLOBAL HARMONIZATION OF SYSTEMS OF CLASSIFICATION AND LABELLING OF CHEMICALS

Physical hazards

Explosive properties

Definition for pyrotechnic articles

Transmitted by the Expert from Germany

Justification

Definitions for the hazard category "explosive" will be based on t he UN Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods. In paragraph 2.1.1.3 (a) of the Recommendations, a n explosive substance is defined and explanation given that pyrotec hnic substances are included into this definition.

On the other hand, in paragraph 2.1.1.3 (b), an own definition is needed for pyrotechnic substance s in connection with the proper assignment of pyrotechnic articles specifically to U N Numbers 0428 to 0432 fo r articles, pyrotechnic for technical purposes and UN Numbers 0333 to 0337 for fireworks.

In paragraph 2.1.1.3 (c) of the Recommendation, an explosive article is defined to be an article containing one or more explosive substances.

A respective definition of a pyrotechnic article is lacking. Only in Appendix B of the Recommendations (Glossary of terms) are some further explanations given.

Therefore, in paragraph 42 of the report of the UN/ILO Working Group on harmonized classification criteria for physical hazards (ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/26/Add.3), the representative of Germany has been invited to submit a respective official proposal.

Proposals

1. In the globally harmonized system for the classification and labelling of dangerous substances and goods the following definition should be used:

   A pyrotechnic article is an article containing one or more pyrotechnic substances.

2. The UN Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods should be amended accordingly by inserting a respective paragraph 2.1.1.3 (d).